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Willfred Allen Schlicker

September 14, 2004

P.O. Box 333

Startup, WA 98293

Dear United States Patent Examiner,

Please review the following amendment to Patent Application No. 10/650,069 filed on August 26, 2003. The amendment is in response to the findings of Examiner Jeffrey L. Gellner and clarifies the description, claims and abstract of my planter, said response was discussed with Examiner Gellner in a telephonic interview on September 2, 2004. During the telephonic interview it was discussed that my planter is made from a single natural stone, thereby retaining the integrity of the stone's form and the outward appearance of the original stone. It was further discussed that my planter has patentable features over the known natural stone planter related in prior art U.S. Patent #6,219,967, issued April 24, 2001 to Powell.


The features which I feel make my planter patentable over the prior art provided in the amendment are as follows:

1. A single natural stone is used to create a two-part planter.
2. The integrity of the stone's form and the outward appearance of the original stone are retained.
3. The upper plant receptacle portion of the planter is elevated above the lower base portion, thereby creating air flow and preventing root failure from over-watering.

4. A water directing device is located on the exterior planar bottom of the upper plant receptacle portion, which comprises an indentation or protrusion in a concentric circle surrounding a single drainage hole or encircling a plurality of drainage holes, said water directing device preventing the water that has drained from the drainage hole(s), from traveling along the bottom exterior planar surface to the outer edge of the planter and instead, directing the drained water to the depression in the base below.

Thank you for reviewing the amendment.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Willfred A. Schlicker', written in a cursive style.

Willfred Allen Schlicker